

Life and Ministry of Jesus Christ A Fox and A Hen

Last time...Jesus, making His way toward Jerusalem for the Feast of Dedication,
taught about the Kingdom of God...an eye-opening lesson for social Christians

This time...a fox and a hen,
a threat and a promise

We will be in Luke 13 again

v31 Get thee out...Herod will kill thee:

The same day Jesus taught hard sayings regarding the mystery of the kingdom of God, Jesus gets a “warning” from a number of Pharisees

Their “concern” for Jesus is to flee (Perea) because Herod Antipas (Galilee and Perea) is out to kill Him.

[map]

Does anybody smell a rat?

The Pharisees are NOT Jesus’ friends,
they do NOT have His best interest at heart...

- they think He is a Sabbath Law-breaking criminal
- they are threatened by His influence on “their” people”
- they want His ministry disrupted or ended
- they want to kill Him

Herod Antipas

- had John the Baptist killed...with much trepidation and fear (Matt 14:1-10, having been “trapped” by his “wife”)
- wanted to see Jesus (Luke 23:6-8)
- but may have wanted another popular spiritual leader (high risk to his career) out of his jurisdiction

Both the Pharisees and Herod Antipas are rats and snakes...deceivers

Perhaps in the growing alliance between Religion and Gov’t that will culminate at the Cross,

- Herod said something about wanting to get rid of Jesus
- the Pharisees said as much, or more, to Herod

In any event, the children of the devil (Matt 3:7, Matt 12:34) come to Jesus as
would their father (John 8:44)...
feigning concern with a manipulating and intimidating message to
generate fear, targeting Jesus Himself and/or His followers

ala Neh 6:1-19

Fear and intimidation – tactics of the devil
Do not listen to the devil for he is a liar
Listen to the Lord and press on!

btw...flee where?

Not Galilee, so to Jerusalem, the stronghold of murderous hostility toward Jesus

v32-33 tell that fox:

Jesus responds to the veiled threat...seeing right thru the manipulation...
not questioning its source or turning on its messengers

The God that searches the hearts of men (Jer 17:10, 1 Chron 28:9, Rom 8:27)
calls Herod a fox

Foxes were commonplace in Canaan/Israel/Judea

Judges 15:1-5 Samson

Ps 63:10 enemies' will be a portion for foxes

Lam 5:16-18 The crown is fallen *from* our head: woe unto us, that
we have sinned! For this our heart is faint; for these
things our eyes are dim. Because of the mountain
of Zion, which is desolate, the foxes walk upon it.

Foxes are known to be sly and treacherous, robbing and destroying critters
As was Herod Antipas!

Taking his half-brother Philip's wife

Murdering John the Baptist, a prophet of God

Many other contemptible things during his reign

Go tell Herod that

1. I cast out devils (with the finger of God, Luke 11:20)
2. I perform miracles (daily, with Divine power and authority, John 3:2)
 - you have no just reason to kill Me
 - you have not the power to kill Me
3. I have work to do
God's Plan of Redemption...even of Herod and the Pharisees if they would believe
Jesus' sacrifice is sufficient for ALL, but effective for only those who believe
4. I will complete it...be perfected...no matter what you say or do
 - Heb 2:9-18
 - Heb 5:8-9
 - Heb 9:11-12, 26
 - Heb 10:12-14

 - John 19:30
 - Acts 2:22-24

 - Jesus Christ – complete
 - Prophet
 - High Priest
 - Kinsman-Redeemer
 - King
 - Savior
5. I will walk among My people, just as I promised/foretold them (Lev 26:12)
6. I will leave your jurisdiction because everyone knows the prophets of God are killed in Jerusalem, NOT in Perea,
(I will leave when My Father tells Me to, not because of your threats!)
 - Deut 18:18-19
 - Neither devil nor man alters the course of God's Plan of Redemption
7. I will die (lay down My life, NOT be killed)...in Jerusalem

Now Jesus turns His thoughts and words to His city, Jerusalem

v34-35 O Jerusalem, Jerusalem:

In turning His thoughts and words to Jerusalem, the Lord therefore “addresses”
the hypocrisy and hearts of the Pharisees who feigned for His safety but in
reality want Him in Jerusalem so they can kill Him

A rather mind-blowing truth

Jerusalem: God’s city, the city He chose for His name where His people
would worship Him (Mount Moriah, Gen 22)

His people chose rebellion over obedience and uncleanness over
holiness

In His city, His people killed His servants the prophets He sent calling
His people to return to Him

The Pharisees would have stoned The Prophet, the Son of God, were it up to them
(John 8:58-59)

Q: Is anything different today when it comes to the world hating Jesus?

1 Cor 10:11 Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples:
and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the
ends of the world are come

Ps 2 (read prophetically)

The Lord will gather His enemies for His 2nd Coming...to Jerusalem

Yet Jesus has a tender love for His people

He will in fact repeat this heart-rending appeal in Jerusalem (Matt 23:37)

The metaphor He uses is fittingly agrarian

When a storm comes, a hen will desperately cluck to her brood to bring
them close so she can protect them from the storm with her wings

If a chick is stubborn or defiant of such loving desperation, it very well
may die in the storm

But...His people are like the stubborn and defiant chicks...

they will NOT return to, be gathered to, their God,
they will not believe/obey/submit and be safe from the fierce storm

And their city will be left desolate, prophecies/foretells Jesus

Complete fulfillment when the Romans were finished with
Jerusalem in 70 AD

Lev 26:12-33

Then...thus saith the Lord, His people will not see Him until they say,
“Blessed is He (Jesus, Messiah, King) that comes in the name of the Lord”

Near term fulfillment – 1st Coming
Luke 19:37-38
Jesus’ Triumphal Entry (as King)

Far term fulfillment – 2nd Coming
Hosea 5:15 – 6:3 with Rev 19
the Revelation of Jesus Christ, King of kings

quoting Ps 118

Ps 118 (read prophetically)

1 Messiah
2 Comings to earth, separated by a long delay (Luke 12:35-47)

A fox...sly, cunning, treacherous, seeking to steal and destroy
A hen...desperate love calling the defenseless chicks to protection from the fierce storm

Zeph 2:1-3

Gather together before the DoL...

Heb 10:24-25 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some *is*; but exhorting *one another*: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching

Seek ye the Lord
Is 55:6-7

Seek ye the LORD while he may be found, call ye upon him while he is near: Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon

Ye meek...

Matt 5:5 **Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.**

Matt 11:28-30 **Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke *is* easy, and my burden is light**

Seek righteousness...

Matt 5:6 *Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled*

1 Cor 1:30 of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption

Ye shall be hid in the day of the Lord's anger

Is 26:20-21 Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity: the earth also shall disclose her blood, and shall no more cover her slain

Rev 3:10 *Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth*

Rev 4:1 After this I looked, and, behold, a door *was* opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard *was* as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither

1 Thes 1:9-10 ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, *even* Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come

1 Thes 5:9 For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ

A threat...of death if one follows Jesus

A promise...of destruction if one does not follow Jesus

Do not listen to the liar

- false concern, false “peace and safety”
- threats
- manipulation
- intimidation
- fear

Listen to the Lord

- His power and authority
- His Plan
- His great love
- His promises
- His call before the storm

Blessed is He (Jesus Christ) Who comes in the name of the Lord!!!